

1-9-2008

The BG News January 9, 2008

Bowling Green State University

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Recommended Citation

Bowling Green State University, "The BG News January 9, 2008" (2008). *BG News (Student Newspaper)*. 7856.

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Wednesday
January 9, 2008
Volume 102, Issue 79
WWW.BGNEWS.COM

CAMPUS

Professor evaluations see new management
Some departments have implemented a new system for evaluating teacher's performances which is run by a company in Kansas | **Page 3**

WORLD

Roadside bombing kills Sri Lankan leader
The assassination of a government minister has been blamed on the Tamil Tiger rebels in connection with recent domestic turmoil | **Page 6**

FORUM

Be yourself, not your political affiliation
Columnist Levi Wonder emphasizes the importance of not losing one's individuality to the ideas of a group | **Page 4**

Voters on all sides of the party line favor change
What most voters want out of the coming election is a departure from partisan politics says Columnist Sean Lutzmann | **Page 4**


SPORTS

Friends embark on a basketball pilgrimage
BGSU alumnus and best friend travel around the U.S. to pen a book about great coaches | **Page 7**

Redskins' coach retired yesterday
Joe Gibbs resigns as coach and team president because of his family duty | **Page 7**

PEOPLE ON THE STREET

How often do you read for fun?



IMANUEL LARCHER
Freshman, Undecided

"I try to get at least six or seven hours a day — the Kama Sutra and Harry Potter." | **Page 4**

WEATHER

TODAY
A.M. Showers/Wind
High: 41, Low: 31

TOMORROW
Cloudy
High: 42, Low: 36

Clinton, McCain win N.H. primary

By David Esposito
The Associated Press

CONCORD, N.H. — Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton won New Hampshire's Democratic primary last night in a startling upset, defeating Sen. Barack Obama and resurfecting her bid for the White House. Sen. John McCain powered past his Republican rivals and back into contention for the GOP nomination. Clinton's victory capped

a comeback from last week's third-place finish in the Iowa caucuses. It also raised the possibility of a long battle for the party nomination between the most viable black candidate in history and the former first lady, who is seeking to become the first woman to occupy the Oval Office. "I am still fired up and ready to go," a defeated Obama told cheering supporters, repeating the line that forms a part of virtually every campaign

"I am still fired up and ready to go."

Barack Obama | Pres. Candidate

appearance. McCain's triumph scrambled the Republican race as well. "We showed this country what a real comeback looks like," the Arizona senator told The Associated Press in an interview as he savored his triumph. "We're going to move on

to Michigan and South Carolina and win the nomination."

Later, he told cheering supporters that together, "we have taken a step, but only a first step toward repairing the broken politics of the past and restoring the trust of the American people in their government."

McCain rode a wave of support from independent voters to defeat former Gov. Mitt Romney of Massachusetts, a showing that reprised the senator's victory in the traditional first-in-

the-nation primary in 2000.

It was a bitter blow for Romney, who spent millions of dollars of his own money in hopes of winning the kickoff Iowa caucuses and the first primary — and finished second in both. Even so, the businessman-turned politician said he would meet McCain next week in the Michigan primary, and he cast himself as just what the coun-

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Technology replaces reading books for fun

Story by Hannah Sparling | Photo by Rachel Radwanski

Students may not be reading Shakespeare or Dickens in their spare time, but they are reading magazine articles, Google news stories and blogs.

Technology, such as the Internet and cell phones, is making information more readily available, and students are taking advantage of the situation. They are reading blogs and quick, easy excerpts instead of books and novels, said Colleen Boff, a First Year Experience Librarian at the University.

Whether or not this new type of reading is a good thing is still undecided.

"I don't think it's a question of more or less or good or bad. It's just different," said Paul Cesarini, an Assistant VCT professor at the University.

There are some excellent magazine articles and some very poorly written novels, and some poorly

See **BOOKS** | Page 2



Replacement needed for Latta after Congress win

Tim Sampson
City Editor

Last month's special congressional election has sparked a seat-switching spree in the state legislature.

With former State Rep. Bob Latta's election to Congress last month, members of the Ohio House of Representatives are moving quickly to fill his now-vacant seat, which will likely lead to even more vacancies.

Republican members of the House may decide as early as today who will fill the 6th District seat representing Wood County.

The Ohio Constitution lays out the ground rules for filling vacancies in the legislature. In the House, fellow members of



Randy Gardner

State Senator vying for Latta's previous seat in the House

the same party of the representative who last filled the vacant seat get to choose a replacement. That means Latta's fellow Republicans will decide who replaces him.

House Republicans had already called for applicants by the time Latta was sworn in on Dec. 13, said Karen Stivers, a spokesperson for State Speaker of the House John Husted.

Three applicants submitted their credentials for the job: State Sen. Randy Gardner,

Bowling Green attorney Andrew Schuman and Rossford attorney Brian Burns.

But only Gardner opted to appear before a three-member screening panel last week, Stivers said. Subsequently, the panel endorsed Gardner to the rest of the Republican members of the House, and he will likely end up representing the 6th District when the legislature reconvenes today.

Gardner, whose term in the State Senate expires next January, had already announced plans to seek the 6th District seat in next November's regularly scheduled election before the vacancy even opened up.

The senator said he chose to

See **LATTA** | Page 2

Fire in Vehtek building; no injuries

A fire ripped through the Vehtek building behind Meijer yesterday afternoon.

The cause of the blaze is still under investigation according to Lt. Johnson, a Bowling Green firefighter.

When firefighters arrived on scene just after 2:30 p.m. there was black smoke billowing from the building and flames shooting into the air, he said.

Johnson also said he saw no visible damage to the propane tanks that were in the building but there was damage to some of the pallets.

Sgt. Mark McDonough of the BGSU said there were no injuries to report but the CMC building was evacuated due to the smoke and the building's proximity to the fire.



ENOCH WU | THE BG NEWS

SMOKED: Visit our Web site to see video of the blaze that seared the Vehtek building.

Possible tornado ravages midwest states

By Peggy Harris
The Associated Press

LITTLE ROCK, Ark. — A possible tornado damaged homes in central Arkansas yesterday, a day after a freak cluster of January twisters struck the unseasonably warm Midwest and demolished houses, knocked a railroad locomotive off its tracks and briefly shuttered a courthouse.

One person was killed in the Arkansas tornado, said Tommy Jackson, a spokesman for the state Department of Emergency Management. Others were injured, said Jim Campbell,

"We've got some homes damaged, trees and roads and stuff like that."

Jim Campbell | Asst. Director

Assistant Director for Pope County 911.

"We've got some homes damaged, trees and roads and stuff like that," Campbell said.

A line of thunderstorms stretched across the region yesterday and a tornado watched

remained in effect during the afternoon in parts of central and eastern Arkansas, and western Tennessee, the National Weather Service said.

The tornadoes developed as temperatures rose to record highs across wide areas of the country.

Tornadoes were reported or suspected Monday in southwest Missouri, southeastern Wisconsin, Arkansas, Illinois and Oklahoma. Two people were killed in Missouri.

See **STORM** | Page 9

BOOKS

From Page 1

written magazine articles and excellent novels, said Amanda McGuire-Rzicnek, a general studies writing instructor at the University. One type of reading is not always better than the other.

"I think it's all in the perspective of the person reading it," McGuire-Rzicnek said. A student will get different things from a Web site than from a classic novel. It all depends on what he or she is looking for, McGuire-Rzicnek explained.

With new technology, among other activities, competing for the interests of students, the amount of long-term reading is declining.

Long-term reading is not only on the decline at the University, but everywhere else in the United States as well.

"These are national trends," Boff said.

Stacey Osborn, an instructor in the English department, said for the most part students have stopped reading simply for enjoyment. They are "visually literate." They send texts and e-mails, but they do not read.

"They have a shared body of cultural information. It's just not reading," Osborn said.

One of the plausible reasons for this decline is the amount of course reading students are required to do. With the time taken up by textbooks, they do not have time to read what they want to read.

"I really don't have any opportunity to read for fun," said Cesarini. "I would assume students are in the same boat."



RACHEL RADWANSKI | THE BG NEWS

STRANGER THAN FICTION: Students, bogged down by time-consuming projects and heavy texts for their classes, often have difficulty finding the time to peruse the fiction section.

Students may also get tired of reading.

"They get burned out on reading, and they never want to pick up another book," Osborn said.

The material in the required course readings, not just the time taken up, may also be a factor. If students are interested in what they are reading about, it is more meaningful to them, Boff said. Much of what they are required to read simply does not excite them, and they lose excitement for reading in general.

Which is more important, class readings or reading for enjoyment, is still up for debate.

"I don't think one is more important than the other," said McGuire-Rzicnek. "They are both equally important."

Cesarini was also unable to place more importance on one or the other.

"I would say reading is important, period," he said.

Osborn, however, felt that reading for enjoyment was more important. If students first learn to read what they

love, then they will later learn to love what they read.

"Read for enjoyment and the boring stuff will become more enjoyable," Osborn said.

Another possible reason for the decline in long-term reading is that students were not properly taught how to read or given the support they needed to become true readers.

"The way they learned to read was so prescribed," Osborn said. "Most students learned how to read to learn how to read, and they didn't learn how to enjoy reading."

It takes many people to teach a child to be a reader, Boff said. Families, schools, friends, everyone has to be a part of it. If those are not in place, a reluctant reader is likely to fall through the cracks.

While long-term reading is on the decline, University students do not really feel that it is a big issue.

Sophomore Katherine Martin said that it is not always easy, but she still finds time to

read for enjoyment.

"I do find it somewhat difficult because there is so much stuff going on and so much stuff for class," said Martin.

Senior Bryan Gerber also said that he was able to find time to read when he wanted to.

Some students simply do not want to read.

Freshman Mike Adams said that he has time to read, he simply chooses not to.

"I have time," said Adams. "I just don't care to read. There are so many things I'd rather do than read."

While students may not be concerned with the decline in long-term reading, others are afraid there will be lasting effects.

"To me [reading] is every bit as important as exercising and eating right," said Boff. "It adds depth to a person that isn't evident otherwise. I think we have to be more intentional about keeping that a part of our routines."

If students continue to read only quick, short and fast stories, they may lose the ability to read long-term, said Boff. Reading is a skill, and they need to continue working on it. Quick reading might have an impact on people's ability to do long-term reading.

Students are also "missing out on seeing the connection between the past and the present," when they do not do long-term reading, said McGuire-Rzicnek. "They're losing an understanding of what happened in the past."

When students do not read for enjoyment, they also miss out on the fun.

"There is a joy that they lose," said Osborn. "Imagination stops."

BLOTTER

MONDAY

12:28 P.M.

A bright blue Huffy bike, valued at \$200, was stolen from a home on North Maple Street.

3:07 P.M.

A men's Schwinn mountain bike was taken from outside a restaurant on East Wooster Street.

9:11 P.M.

Ben Maulorico IV from Strongsville, OH, and Amy Damore from Warren, OH, were cited for underage consumption and Matthew Wilkinson from Bowling Green, OH, was cited for drug abuse instruments, drug abuse marijuana, and allowing possession of intoxicating liquor when police found burnt marijuana on a table and several beer cans in a plastic bag.

10:23 P.M.

Alex Arlon Jones, 30, Terry Lee Deal Jr., 36, and Debra A. Deal, 34, all of Bowling Green, were cited for disorderly conduct for getting into a heated verbal argument at a gas station on South Main Street that resulted in the front door of the gas station being damaged.

11:19 P.M.

Andrew L. Johnson from Emporium, PA, was cited for obstructing official business, possession of marijuana and possession of drug paraphernalia. The officer responding to a call from hall staff about the smell of burnt marijuana in McDonald Hall North was given permission to search the student's room, but when he got to a locked cabinet, Johnson forcibly grabbed the officer and told him he wasn't allowed to search the room anymore. After a warrant

was obtained, the officer found marijuana and a glass pipe, three driver's licenses and a bottle of prescription medication in the room not belonging to Johnson.

11:20 P.M.

Andrew J. Snyder, 19, of Bowling Green, was arrested for disorderly conduct after he punched and kneed someone in the face following an argument about money at a gas station on North Main Street.

TUESDAY

1:02 A.M.

Natalie R. Miller, 20, of Bowling Green, was cited for prohibited acts for using someone else's ID at a bar on North Main Street.

2:07 A.M.

Demetree C. Henry, 21, of Lima, Ohio, was arrested for disorderly conduct for fighting. According to police, Henry admitted to getting into a verbal argument with a woman that got out of hand and led to him pushing her to the ground and holding her down by her hair. The victim had a cut on her knee and complained of her head hurting, but refused medical treatment.

4:04 A.M.

Danielle M. Pultz, 19, of Bowling Green, was arrested for domestic violence and taken to the Wood County Justice Center. Police said Pultz attacked her boyfriend, scratching his neck and biting his right nipple. But Pultz claimed she had bitten the nipple two days earlier.

ONLINE: Go to www.bgnews.com for the complete blotter list.

LATTA

From Page 1

seek the special appointment now in order for Wood County to have a representative for the long haul.

"We need someone with more than 11 months interest," Gardner said. "It's important to have a long-term legislature because it takes a long time to accomplish certain projects."

But if he is appointed to fill Latta's old seat, that would kickstart a chain reaction. Gardner's 2nd District seat would need to be filled by Republican mem-

bers of the Senate, who have already endorsed State Rep. Mark Wagoner.

But if Wagoner moves to the Senate, then House Republicans would need to make another special appointment to replace him. And this whole process began with the special election to fill the vacancy left by the late U.S. Representative Paul Gillmor.

"Appointments are not my preference," Gardner said. "But this is only happening because of the tragedy of Paul Gillmor's death. It's not something we were looking forward to or wanted."

THE QUEST FOR THE TEXTS



CHRISTINA MCGINNIS | THE BG NEWS

BOOK SEARCH: Students John Hurst and Hayley Radachi browse the bookstore for textbooks.

PRIMARY

From Page 1

try needed to fix Washington. "I don't care who gets the credit, Republican or Democrat. I've got no scores to settle," he told supporters.

After Iowa, Clinton and her aides seemed resigned to a second straight setback. But polling place interviews showed that female voters — who deserted her last week — were solidly in her New Hampshire column.

She also was winning handily among registered Democrats. Obama led her by an even larger margin among independents, but he suffered from a falloff in turnout among young voters compared with Iowa.

Word of Clinton's triumph set off a raucous celebration among supporters at a hotel in Nashua — gathered there to celebrate a first-in-the-nation primary every bit as surprising as the one 16 years ago that allowed a young Bill Clinton to proclaim himself "the comeback kid."

She had 39 percent of the vote in the Democratic primary to 37 percent for Obama, who is seeking to become the nation's first black president. Former Sen. John Edwards of North Carolina trailed with 17 percent. New Mexico Gov. Bill Richardson was fourth, polling less than 5 percent of the vote.

Despite running a distant third to his better-funded rivals, Edwards had no plans to step aside. He pointed toward the South Carolina primary on Jan. 26, hoping to prevail in the state where he was born — and where he claimed his only victory in the presidential primaries four years ago.

Among Republicans, former Arkansas Gov. Mike Huckabee, who won the leadoff Iowa GOP caucuses last week, was running third in New Hampshire.

McCain was winning 37 percent of the Republican vote, Romney had 32 and Huckabee 11. Former New York Mayor Rudy Giuliani had 9 percent, Texas Rep. Ron Paul 8.

Clinton's triumph was unexpected — and unpredicted.

Obama drew huge crowds as he swept into the state after winning Iowa. Confident of victory,

"I don't care who gets the credit Republican or Democrat ..."

Mitt Romney | Candidate

he stuck to his pledge to deliver "change we can believe in," while the former first lady was forced to retell her appeal to voters on the run. She lessened her emphasis on experience, and sought instead to raise questions about Obama's ability to bring about the change he promised.

The grind took a toll on both of them.

Obama suffered from a sore throat, while Clinton's voice quavered at one point when asked how she coped with the rigors of the campaign. That unexpected moment of emotion became the talk of the final 24 hours of a campaign that was unlike any other in history.

Clinton's performance came as a surprise even to her own inner circle.

In the hours leading up to the poll closing, her closest advisers had appeared to be bracing for a second defeat at the hands of Obama.

Officials said her aides were considering whether to effectively concede the next two contests — caucuses in Nevada on Jan. 19 and a South Carolina primary a week later — and instead try to regroup in time for a 22-state round of Democratic contests on Feb. 5.

These officials also said a campaign shake-up was in the works, with longtime Clinton confidante Maggie Williams poised to come aboard to help sharpen the former first lady's message. Other personnel additions are expected, according to these officials, who spoke on condition of anonymity while discussing strategy.

Obama, who won the lead-off Iowa caucuses last week, looked for an endorsement from the powerful Culinary Workers union in Nevada in the days ahead. South Carolina's Democratic electorate is heavily black and likely to go for the most viable black presidential candidate in history.

CORRECTION POLICY

We want to correct all factual errors. If you think an error has been made, call The BG News at 419-372-6966.

FALCON FACTS

• When Bowling Green State Normal College started classes in 1914, the tuition for students was free.

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GET A LIFE

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Some of the calendar of events is taken from eventsbgnews.com.

8 a.m. - 9 p.m.
GeoJourney
 130 and 131 Union - Gallery Space

8 a.m. - 11 p.m.
Muslim Student Association Prayer Room
 204 Olscamp

8 - 10:30 a.m.
Welcome Back Sweets & Treats
 Pit

10:30 - 11:30 a.m.
Surplus Viewing
 Reed Street Warehouse

10:30 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Walmart Gift Card Raffle
 Table Space 118-1 Union

11 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Bake Sale/Recruitment
 Table Space 118-8 Table Space

12 - 1 p.m.
Orientation Leader Interest Session
 318 Union

3 - 4:30 p.m.
COSMOS Collaborative Council
 246 Math Science Bldg.

4:30 - 5:30 p.m.
Welcome Back Sweets & Treats
 Pit

5:30 p.m.
Late Night Event Meeting
 314 Union

7:30 p.m.
Global Warming Lecture
 Millennium Theatre, 1715 S. Reynolds Road, Toledo OH

8 p.m.
FAS: Robert Satterlee, piano
 Bryan Recital Hall, Moore Musical Arts Center

9 - 11 p.m.
Wednesdays in the Pub: Karaoke
 101 Union - Black Swamp Pub

9:15 p.m.
Risk Manager Meeting
 208 Union

New teacher evaluations

By Kate Snyder
 Reporter

After a new teacher evaluation program was introduced to the University last year, a few departments are using it and more are beginning to switch over.

The new system is called Individual Development and Educational Assessment, and according to its Web site is a program located in Kansas that has been offering their teacher evaluation services to other universities across the country for years.

With this new system, individual universities are no longer responsible for calculating their own evaluation forms.

Evaluation forms are sent to the university, students fill them out, and they are sent to the center in Kansas where they are processed and organized before being sent back to the university.

The design of the new forms is research-based on evaluation on teaching, said Mark Gromko, Vice Provost of Academic Programs.

The Provost Office offered a "pilot version" of the new program to whatever departments wanted to try it.

The new IDEA form "does a much better job than our

"It allows faculty members to receive feedback. [It's] more precise, detailed information to benefit students."

Karen Sirum | Assistant Professor

home-grown ones do," Gromko said.

One of the aspects of the new form is that it asks students about their personal study habits.

Students with good study habits tend to give higher evaluations, Gromko said.

Angela Nelson, Chair of the Popular Culture department, said the fact that the forms get sent out is one of the most convenient aspects.

"I just like the idea that we get it all gathered and ship it out. No faculty member touches it," she said.

Originally, Nelson said, their evaluation scores were calculated by their department, and teachers were given a letter grade. But Nelson said the IDEA forms come back with student feedback as well as suggestions for changes.

"The center collects data from across the nation," she said, and the research allows the program to make informative suggestions.

Karen Sirum, an assistant

professor in the biology department, liked the fact that the IDEA forms also take into account how each teacher approaches the class.

For example, some teachers don't lecture, so their lecture points wouldn't count.

Sirum also liked how the form put more emphasis on feedback instead of just a score.

"It allows faculty members to receive feedback," she said. "[It's] more precise, detailed information to benefit students."

Nelson believes that the way this benefits students is a long-term process.

"It doesn't help a student who's already finished the class," she said. "Maybe it will be a better class the next semester."

The forms are available in both paper form and online. Both Nelson and Sirum's departments have participated in the program since it started in last spring.

"My hope is that the Provost Office continues to do it," Nelson said.

Steps are being taken to reduce costs of tuition

By Michael Gsovski
 U-Wire

EVANSTON, Ill. — The estimated cost of attending Northwestern University for the 2007-08 academic year is \$49,379. Sonya Roberts' family is paying all of it.

"It would be nice to understand where all that money goes to," the Communication freshman said. "I feel that even if you're very rich it's still hard to afford."

With college enrollment at record highs, financial aid has become a national issue.

In December, a bill was

"It would be nice to understand where all that money goes to."

Sonya Roberts | Freshman

introduced in Congress that would mandate institutions spend a set amount of their endowments on aid. In a recent debate, presidential candidates former Arkansas Gov. Mike Huckabee and former Mass. Gov. Mitt Romney argued over whether the children of illegal immigrants deserve scholarships.

Mental illnesses pose issues

By Bonnie Miller Rubin & Megan Twohey
 U-Wire

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. — Jill Manges was in her French history class at Eastern Illinois University, when she felt the symptoms — the waves of nausea, the tightness in the throat — that signaled an impending flashback.

Threading her way through the row of desks that September afternoon, Manges, who suffers from post-traumatic stress disorder, willed herself to the door, blacking out just outside her classroom.

Twelve days later, the

school gave her two options: Take a medical leave or we'll kick you out.

From large public institutions to small, private colleges, a growing number of schools are taking punitive action against students who display mental illness, ranging from bipolar disorder to eating disorders, experts say.

With better mental health services in younger grades, more youth with mental illness are arriving on college campuses than ever before. At the same time, courts have indicated that schools can be held legally responsible if students harm themselves or others.

Start a new semester with fervor

By Kezia Bryant
 U-Wire

LOUISVILLE, Ky. — For some University of Louisville students and professors alike, it may seem like just yesterday they were waiting for final exams to be out of the way, and looking forward to winter break.

Now, with the weeks of winter break dissolving away, it may be difficult for students to come to terms with a new semester beginning.

"I'm not ready. I want to stay home and sleep in, but I do miss the ladies," said Jermaine Stafford, a freshman business finance major.

One can be left with a plethora of mixed feelings about the next semester.

Of course, there is the fervor that a fresh set of classes and being back with friends brings.

However, along with those are the memories from last semester's 10-page papers, days packed with back-to-

"I'm not ready. I want to stay home and sleep in, but I do miss the ladies."

Jermaine Stafford | Freshman

back classes and virtually sleepless nights.

After spending several weeks indulging in home-cooked meals, quality time with the family and old friends, and days spent dozing in front of the TV, it could be hard for students to happily bounce right back into the rigid and for the most part, chaotic routine of college life.

"It's going to be a big adjustment," said Gerald Reed, a junior whose major is undecided.

Even so, there are several ways to ward off the symptoms of a lethargic break, according to "Getting back into the swing," by Katharine Donnelly, that include: exercising, re-deco-

rating, re-stocking supplies, creating a three-day weekend and getting involved.

Exercising is a great way to rehabilitate mind and body after all the holiday eating and sleeping, and it is not hard to find a gym.

There is a gym available to students that is located in the Student Activity Center that students can get into for free daily.

Another way to get back to normal is by re-decorating the shoebox dorm rooms many students call home.

This could be therapeutic while also starting the new year off right.

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FORUM

"The only thing detrimental is yes, he is a little old. But I think if you've still 'got it', that's not such a bad thing — and he's still got it." — Yvonne Venable, a New Hampshire voter explaining her vote for Sen. John McCain in yesterday's primaries [from BBC News]

Wednesday, January 9, 2008 4

PEOPLE ON THE STREET

How often do you read for fun? [See story, p. 1]



"I bought a book to read for fun, but I don't have any time to read it."
JOHNNIE L. LEWIS, Junior, Liberal Studies



"Counting magazines, I'd say about an hour a week."
KONNIE McALLEY, Sophomore, Tourism and Event Planning



"No, because schoolbooks take up all my time."
ALBERT HATHORN, Freshman, Accounting



"I hate reading!"
SARAH VICKERS, Freshman, Special Education

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MCT

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Hey Democrats, spare some change?



SEAN LUTZMANN
COLUMNIST

"Change" has become the key buzzword in the Democratic primary election, and it should be. Americans of all political persuasions are looking for a break from the Bush administration's dismal policies in both the foreign and economic spheres of governance.

Now more than ever, America is looking to turn the page.

But what appears to be in contention within the Democratic field is not any specific policy the three leading candidates are proposing so much as who has the best approach and who is most likely to bring about the changes that so much of the electorate is looking for.

Sen. Barack Obama claims on his Web site that he can bring about "Change We Can Believe In" if elected president. New Hampshire supporters for Obama have a link on the site stating that "Our Time for Change Has Come."

Not to be outdone, former Sen. John Edwards has emblazoned on his online campaign site his request for visitors to "Join the Campaign to Change America."

Curiously enough, though, the word does not show up much on Sen. Hillary Clinton's Web site. This should come to no surprise in light of the fact that the continuation of the Bush/Clinton/Bush/Clinton

"What most people are disgusted with when they talk about the status quo in Washington is the same kind of overly partisan gridlock."

pattern of presidential elections is viewed by many people in this country (especially the ever growing, and ever pro-Obama, independent voting population), as the epitome of status quo politics and the antithesis of reform. Dynasties just don't play out that well with the increasingly anti-establishment body of voters.

Don't get me wrong, there are obviously some major differences in George W. Bush's conservative policies and Clinton's slightly-left-of-center proposals, but what most people are disgusted with when they talk about the status quo in Washington is the same kind of overly partisan gridlock that focuses more on scoring political points in order to stay in power than improving the state of the nation as a whole by possibly upsetting the political base. This is why membership in the two main parties have been declining so much over the years and why cynicism has run amok in the American psyche.

Hillary did mention "change" more than a few times during the recent Democratic debate hosted by ABC News and Facebook last Saturday along with the

TOMORROW IN FORUM
Columns from Kampire Bahana, Grant Pardee and Marisha Pietrowski.

Schedule subject to change.

See **LUTZMANN** | Page 5

Don't let lifestyle politics define who you are



LEVI JOSEPH WONDER
COLUMNIST

"The world of human social interaction is quite literally a colossal sea of different groups trying to spread their influence."

I've got an imaginary friend for all of you to meet. His name is Leonard.

Leonard is a 22-year-old guy living in a densely packed city who considers himself to be a "punk rocker." Leonard wears heavy combat boots with thick black laces, sports a 1970s-era leather rocker jacket, has a Mohawk hairdo dyed jet black and considers himself to be a vital part of the punk rock scene.

He detests any type of music that is not considered to be punk. He is an anarchist who refuses to start a career ("Cuz anarchists can't have jobs! Right?). He smokes cigarettes and consumes large amounts of beer (but he ridicules people who abstain from drugs). During the night, he regularly rages around town with

his friends while they all harass and ridicule random people on the streets.

One thing is for sure: Leonard has a problem.

But why *does* Leonard have a problem? It's not that he is a punk; there's nothing wrong with being a punk (personally, I enjoy punk rock very much).

While his excessive tobacco and alcohol abuse, his habitual laziness, and the nighttime patrolling and marauding definitely qualify as life problems and reasons for him to rethink his life and join a support group, the true root of this prickly situation is Leonard's conscious decision to join such a "scene" and to voluntarily allow its doctrine to define and manipulate the happenings of his very own life. Such behavior is also known as a strict

adherence to the lifestyle politics of a pre-established social group. It's an extreme behavior with sometimes dire ramifications.

This is precisely where Leonard is messing up with his life decisions: He is allowing a system of rules, mandates, expectations and social taboos established by other people (with their own personal agendas in mind) to control what he should say, do, think, eat, use, wear and who he should be.

He made the decision to join this group when he was a disillusioned high school student who was looking for a group in which he could experience a feeling of "belonging." He joined, and he did experience said feelings, but he quite literally neutered his right to free thinking in doing so.

Of course, such fanatical behavior is surreptitiously detrimental to anyone's methods of thought and behavior no matter which specific social group or set of life guidelines and ideologies to which one chooses to subscribe. In other words: Extremism is bad no matter how you take it.

Leonard, as a result of his induction into his close-knit coterie of anarcho-punks, is now a snub, smug, "punk first, everything else last" kind of person.

He is intolerant, inured against any other ways of thinking, pretentious and self-righteous, and is socially incompatible with most people outside of his circle of friends. But remember, Leonard is in this situation because he is too radical with his thoughts and lifestyle preferences.

However, that is not to say joining any social group makes one bigoted simply by default;

See **WONDER** | Page 5

The world keeps a dangerous silence in response to honor killings



SEAN MARTIN
COLUMNIST

Honor. Over winter break this word took on a whole new meaning as two high school women were gunned down in Texas and another woman was strangled in Canada.

These three women were executed simply because they did not agree with their culture's religion.

In Texas, Amina and Sarah Said were executed for the way they dressed and dated boys. Apparently they did not adhere well to the Muslim tradition. This caused someone to be gravely embarrassed, according to their mother.

The women were on their way to high school when they died. They are believed to have been shot repeatedly by their father and left to die in a taxi. Their father is still on the loose.

While we may find shock and utter contempt in these actions, some leaders of the Islamic faith here in North America have condoned it.

The leader of the largest Mosque in Toronto, Canada, Iqbal Nadvi, said it is the parents' duty to "convince" their kids to maintain the faith. When the child strays from the path, shame and failure is put upon the parents, leaving them only one way to restore their lost honor.

This statement was released in response to the recent murder of Aqsa Parvez by her father.

Aqsa had committed the unforgivable act of not wearing a

"If one day someone is going to die anyway, it is acceptable to kill them? While we sit here, all we hear are messages like this."

traditional headscarf. Police have also charged her brother with obstructing the investigation.

Let that sink in for a minute. Her brother helped cover up the murder.

However, Nadvi claims that Islam does not condone murder.

Putting this claim of non-involvement aside, let us look at what, exactly, an honor killing is.

Human Rights Watch defines honor killings as something that can be done to women for egregious crimes.

One might think that these killings should be saved for things such as burning an orphanage down or treason.

In reality, things like women refusing arranged marriages, women being sexually assaulted (some believe it is the woman's fault), women trying to divorce an abusive husband or women being accused of committing (it does not have to be proven) adultery are just some of the accepted grounds for honor killings.

On another note, honor killings exist in various ethnic groups and religions in Africa and Asia. So do not just contribute this all to the Muslim faith.

Do not send me e-mails about me picking on the Islamic faith. I only write about

these two incidents because they are extremely recent and are provoked only because of clothing and lifestyle choices.

While it may not be in the fine print of the Quran, the followers of Islam are getting these ideas from somewhere. Since the book does not actually say this directly, one only needs to look toward the major source of interpretation and guidance: leaders of the faith.

It is these same radical leaders that convince people being a suicide bomber is a good way to get into paradise. While these maniacs are overseas, they are starting to contaminate our shores with messages of hate.

Why is it that we have not heard an outcry of rage against these murders by the rest of the Muslim community?

Where are the rational, moderate and intelligent Muslims? I know they are out there. I also know they realize these insane tactics need to stop.

Surely in America, where people of all faiths are allowed to worship freely, some Muslims would realize the mockery that is being made of their religion.

Yet, at the funeral of the Said women, all we hear is silence, intermixed with messages of "working to keep the family

See **MARTIN** | Page 5

TO OUR READERS: PLEASE NOTE CHANGES TO THE BG NEWS SUBMISSION POLICY BELOW

THE BG NEWS

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No thanks to 'Persons Night' at the bar

THE CHICAGO TRIBUNE | GUEST COLUMNIST

In May 2005, the Los Angeles Angels of Anaheim passed out free red nylon tote bags to female fans over age 18, in honor of Mother's Day. Michael Cohn didn't get one. So he hired San Diego attorney Alfred Rava, who was still upset about being denied a reversible bucket hat in an Oakland A's Mother's Day promotion the year before, and they sued. In 2006, the Angels celebrated Mother's Day by giving free tote bags to the first 25,000 fans, regardless of gender. Nice going, guys.

All over America, businesses are plying women with special offers: reduced memberships at gyms, discounts on car washes and lube jobs, shorter lines, no cover and cheap drinks at "ladies' night" events. One Las Vegas casino offers free champagne all night to "ladies dressed in schoolgirl outfits." These deals aren't available to men, regardless of their willingness to dress in schoolgirl outfits. And the lawsuits are flying.

Judges in California, Iowa, Colorado and Pennsylvania have ruled that "ladies' discounts are illegal because they discriminate against men. A dozen states have laws specifically forbidding single-sex promotions. In Illinois and Washington, though, courts have ruled that they're a permissible means of attracting customers.

A Manhattan attorney, suing six New York nightspots, wants a federal court to shut down ladies' nights there. A lawyer representing one of the clubs says ladies' night isn't gender-based discrimination any more than kids-eat-free promotions are age-based discrimination — an argument that seems to

"The women come for the 2-for-1 well drinks, and the men come because the place is full of women. What's not to love?"

make the plaintiff's case, if you ask us.

The campaign to stamp out such injustices is self-defeating at best. If a judge tells New York nightclub owners they can't charge men a \$10 cover while admitting women for free, they're not likely to right that wrong by letting the men in free too. No, it will be \$10 for everyone and the guys will be sitting around paying full price for their drinks and wondering where all the women went.

That's exactly what happened in New Jersey, after the state Civil Rights Division declared ladies' night illegal in 2004. The \$1 cocktails at Equal Gender Wednesday weren't a big draw, and the state legislature quickly passed a bill legalizing ladies' night.

Though some judges obviously take a dimmer view of ladies' night, we think the Illinois Appellate Court got it right in 1981 when it ruled that such promotions aren't discriminatory because they benefit both sexes. The women come for the 2-for-1 well drinks, and the men come because the place is full of women. What's not to love? The only people who aren't happy are the crybabies who think a Mother's Day giveaway should be gender neutral.

WONDER

From Page 4

pushing it too far does the trick, though.

Leonard's uptight "I'm way more punk than you are, you capitalist consumer sheep" style of thinking is specified only by the values, norms and taboos of his group of punks. If Leonard had joined a cluster of fanatical religious holier-than-thous, a pack of aggressive and judgmental jocks, or a bunch of indignant and isolated malcontents (or any one of the many other established social cliques), then he would most definitely adopt that specific social order's set of rules, guidelines and code of living.

Let's face it, people: Whenever any one person on this planet agrees to become part of a greater body of humans unified by common interests, friendship or other grounds, he or she (unknowingly or knowingly) conforms in one way or another to that group's principles and rules.

Because of the aforementioned truths, moderation and careful choice-making are crucial to making good decisions about which life values and principles to adopt in modern society. Social cliques and groups are omnipresent in many aspects of our lives, and all of them try to further their own agendas through recruiting new members, by distributing propaganda and mixed media, and by blatantly or passively asserting their own specific beliefs and values.

The world of human social interaction is quite literally a colossal sea of different groups trying to spread their influence in one way or another. From a quiz team recruiting campaign to outright fascist propaganda, almost every established social group takes on a life of its own in expanding its network of influence.

When joining such a group or organization, make sure to maintain personal individuality within its ranks and keep an open-minded viewpoint toward other ways of life.

MARTIN

From Page 4

strong." We also hear chilling message that "all living things are condoned to die."

So if one day someone is going to die anyway, it is acceptable to kill them? While we sit here, all we hear are messages like this.

What we do not hear is any condemnation of the men that executed these innocent women and the practices they used. We do not hear demands for reform and education to take place.

We hear nothing except approval through massive silence. This silence comes from the informed as well as the uninformed. How can one know of this injustice and not be outraged?

America needs to stress to those of differing religions that these barbaric practices cannot, and will not, be tolerated. America also needs to stress that the life and rights of women are worth more than the cultural value and significance of a headscarf.

We value moderation and tolerance, not the oppression and murder of women.

There is no place in this country for honor killings as a remedy for a perceived psychological or cultural slight.

There is no negotiation on this; either accept the values we all are entitled to, or leave.

This idea of "take it or get out" may seem intolerant to some of you reading this, but it is intolerance that killed those three women.

These women simply wanted to be themselves, and to some, that was unacceptable.

Send responses to Sean's column to thenews@bgnews.com.

LUTZMANN

From Page 4

regular praise of the word from the other candidates. She had to do quite a bit of convincing, however, arguing that she was a "change agent" during the 1990s in her fight for universal health care, gaining the experience necessary to effectively follow through with it now. This framing did not help her much in Iowa, and if she doesn't prove that she can be just as much of a maverick in the system like Sen. John McCain in the Republican Party, I doubt she will ever be able to catch up with Obama's momentum.

Edwards, meanwhile, criticizes Obama for thinking

that one can negotiate with insurance companies and drug companies instead of holding a take-no-prisoners attitude and the fact "that you gotta just beat them... you can't nice these people to death" as he told a crowd of supporters just before the Iowa caucus. In Edwards's view, change can only be brought about from an outsider who ignores all interests except those of the lower and middle classes. It's a populist approach that's garnered the support of Michael Moore and Ralph Nader.

Obama responded to such reasoning with a dab of realism and yes, even compromise: "The key to getting this [change] done is to empower the American people, but you also have to have negotia-

tions, and you have to listen. Otherwise stuff is not going to happen. We want to reduce the power of drug companies and insurance companies and so forth, but the notion that they will have no say so at all in anything is just not realistic; it's just not true."

In other words, Obama believes that though corporate interests seem to have dominated the decisions made at the table for years, they still in the end play a vital role in whether the system works. He seems to be more confident that agreements can be made once everyone has an equal seat at the metaphorical table. His method of change comes about through the power of national unity.

It might be naïve in today's current political climate to suggest such a thing, but it would no doubt be a break from the destructive past.

Send responses to Sean's column to thenews@bgnews.com.

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Be sure to read the submission guidelines at the bottom of this page.

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BOMB BLAST: A Sri Lankan soldier stands guard near the damaged vehicle of D.M. Dassanayake, the nation building minister, at the site of an explosion in Ja-Ela, a suburb of capital Colombo, Sri Lanka, yesterday. Dassanayake was killed yesterday in a roadside bombing.

Attack on Sri Lankan government

By Bharatha Mallawarachi
The Associated Press

COLOMBO, Sri Lanka — A Sri Lankan government minister died yesterday in a roadside bombing blamed on the Tamil Tiger rebels, the first successful assassination of a top Sri Lankan official in 19 months.

The attack was almost certain to intensify the civil war between government forces and rebel fighters that has been raging across northern Sri Lanka in recent months.

President Mahinda Rajapaksa condemned the assassination as an example of the rebel group's "continued commitment to terror and violence," and implied the government would retaliate.

"This sad event is a further reminder of the need to redouble our efforts to rid our country of terrorism and the use of violence to achieve political ends," he said in a statement.

The bomb tore through the

car carrying Nation Building Minister D.M. Dassanayake as he traveled through the Ja-Ela area, about 12 miles north of the capital, Colombo, said military spokesman Brig. Udaya Nanayakkara.

Dassanayake, who was not a member of the Cabinet, suffered head injuries and wounds all over his body and was rushed into surgery before he died, said Dr. Dharmawardena Guruge, a physician at Ragama Teaching Hospital, where the minister was taken.

The blast, which came days after the government officially pulled out of a tattered ceasefire with the separatist rebels, killed another man and wounded 10 others, officials said.

"We are quite sure that it was done by the terrorists," Media Minister Anura Yapa said, referring to the Tamil Tigers. Rebel spokesman Rasiyah Ilanthirayan did not answer calls seeking comment.

Dassanayake was coordinating efforts to rebuild Sri Lanka's Eastern Province after government forces drove the rebels from the area in July. Rajapaksa suggested Dassanayake was killed because his work in the east angered the rebels.

Dassanayake's death came just two days after a top rebel intelligence officer, Shanmuganathan Ravishankar, also known as Col. Charles, was killed in a military strike. Ravishankar was in charge of the rebels' ground troop intelligence, according to pro-rebel reports.

Fighting continued in the embattled north yesterday, with troops killing 10 rebels in two separate clashes along the front lines in the Vavuniya district, said a Defense Ministry statement. There was no immediate comment from the rebels.

A new wave of fighting in the north has killed 98 people in the five days since the withdrawal, according to the military.

President Kibaki names his cabinet; angers opposition

Political violence erupts after election results in Kenya

By Katharine Hourled
The Associated Press

NAIROBI, Kenya — Kenya's president named half his Cabinet yesterday, angering opposition leaders who accuse him of stealing the recent election and undermining mediation attempts for a power-sharing agreement to end violence that has left more than 500 dead.

In the hours after President Mwai Kibaki announced his Cabinet appointments, police fired over the heads of youths who set up a roadblock of burning tires in the western town of Kisumu, according to a resident there.

In Nairobi's oldest slum, Mathare, a witness reported hearing the first gunshots in three days just an hour after the announcement.

Political violence in some areas since the East African nation's disputed Dec. 27 presidential election had deteriorated into clashes between other tribes and Kibaki's Kikuyu, which has long dominated Kenyan politics and the economy.

Salim Lone, a spokesman for opposition leader Raila Odinga's party, repeated the party's call for no demonstrations, saying it did not want to undermine African Union-mediated talks expected to begin today.

"We think that the announcement of the Cabinet was a slap in the face for all the effort that Kenyans and the international community is making to avoid the crisis," Lone said.

Early yesterday, Odinga rejected an invitation from Kibaki for

"I am certain they have no evidence... a credible court can nullify a Kibaki win."

Martha Karua | Justice minister

talks, calling it "public relations gimmickry" and charging the president with "trying to deflect attention from and undermine" international mediation.

One proposed solution has been for Kibaki and Odinga to share power. But the Cabinet members announced by Kibaki, among them his vice president, included no portfolios for members of Odinga's party.

Most posts went to members of Kibaki's party, although Kalonzo Musyoka, a minor presidential candidate who won just 9 percent of votes, was named vice president and another member of Kalonzo's party was named information minister.

According to a Kenyan government Web site, Kibaki won 4,584,721 votes or 47 percent of the ballots cast, against Odinga's 4,352,993, or 44 percent.

However, even the chairman of the country's electoral commission has said he is not sure Kibaki won. The top American envoy to Africa, Jendayi Frazer, said this week that the vote count at the heart of the dispute was tampered with and both sides could have been involved.

Odinga's party won 95 out of 210 parliament seats and Kibaki's party won 43 in legislative elections held the same day

as the presidential vote, meaning it will be difficult for Kibaki to govern without making some overture to Odinga.

Martha Karua, reappointed as justice minister yesterday, said the opposition should take its complaints to the courts.

"I am certain they have no evidence upon which a credible court can nullify a Kibaki win," she said.

Diplomatic efforts continued. The chairman of the African Union, Ghanaian President John Kufuor, arrived on a mediation mission, and President Bush and British Prime Minister Gordon Brown offered support to the AU effort.

In the U.S., Robert Gibbs, a spokesman for Sen. Barack Obama, said the Democratic Party presidential candidate spoke by telephone with Odinga for about five minutes Monday before going into a campaign rally in New Hampshire.

Odinga said on British Broadcasting Corp. radio that Obama's father was his maternal uncle. He said Obama called twice "to express his concern and to say that he is also going to call President Kibaki so that Kibaki agrees to find a negotiated, satisfactory solution to this problem."

Kenya is an ally in the United States' war on terrorist groups and has turned over dozens of people to the U.S. and Ethiopia as suspected terrorists. The country allows American military forces to operate from Kenyan bases and conducts joint exercises with U.S. troops in the region.

Obama's Kenyan relatives support his candidacy

By Katy Pownall
The Associated Press

KOGELO, Kenya — Seated on plastic chairs surrounded by chickens and barefoot children, Barack Obama's Kenyan relatives listened to the radio yesterday for news of how their favorite son was doing in the New Hampshire primary.

The early results were encouraging, bringing a whoop of satisfaction from the candidate's uncle. "Ah, that's wonderful," said Obama declared, breaking into a wide grin. "But I don't want to jump just yet."

Kogelo, the western Kenyan village of Barack Obama's father, has been spared the political and ethnic violence that has erupted in Kenya after last month's disputed presidential election. But it's just 90 minutes' drive from a

town where torched and looted buildings bear testimony to the clashes that have left more than 500 people dead, and the turmoil in Kenya, as well as his nephew's political success, were on Said Obama's mind.

While the dispute is political, violence has pitted other tribes — such as the Obamas' Luo — against the Kikuyu of President Mwai Kibaki, who have long dominated politics and the economy in Kenya.

If Barack Obama were in Kenya today, he would "work with the leadership to bring them to a round table and find a solution to the problems that have been ravaging the country," his uncle said.

In fact, Obama's spokesman Robert Gibbs confirmed the senator spoke to opposition leader Raila Odinga Monday before going into a rally in New Hampshire.

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SIDELINES



FOOTBALL

Brady wins AP Offensive Player of the Year

In a year when the New England Patriots won every game and were the ultimate team, quarterback Tom Brady claimed more individual honors by winning the AP Offensive Player of the Year. **Page 8**

ONLINE

The BG News Sports Blog

Want to know what *Destination Basketball* authors Andrew Hemminger and Dave Bensch have been up to since their book hit the stands? Check out The BG News Sports Blog for an update and photos. <http://www.bgnewssports.blogspot.com>

SCHEDULE

TODAY

Women's Basketball: vs. Akron; 7pm.

OUR CALL

Today in Sports History

1991—Baseball officially bans Pete Rose from being elected to Hall of Fame.
1991—Dean Smith of NC is 6th to win 700 career coaching basketball games.
1967—NFL New Orleans' franchise takes name "Saints".
1903—Frank Farrell and Bill Devery purchase A.L. Baltimore franchise for \$18,000 and move it to New York City.

The List

In honor of Ohio State losing their fourth championship game in one calendar year, we bring you the most excruciating title game losses for the state of Ohio.

1. OSU vs Florida:

The invincible Buckeyes were supposed to wipe the floor with the lowly Gators. Well that did not happen and Florida cruised to a 41-14 victory.

2. Cavs vs. Spurs:

LeBron led his upstart Cavaliers against the tried and tested San Antonio Spurs. The result? A 4-0 Spurs sweep.

3. Tribe vs. Red Sox:

Up three games to one and with Sabathia on the mound and everything went straight to hell and the Indians lost in seven.

4. OSU vs. LSU:

It was supposed to be different this time around. LSU thought differently and won 38-24.

5. OSU vs. Florida

(basketball): Even Greg Oden's brilliance could not slow down the Gators.

15 months. 27,150 miles. \$6,000. One trek of a lifetime



Lifelong best friends embark on *Destination Basketball*

By Chris Voloschuk
Sports Editor

The journey took 27,150 miles in a 2001 Honda Civic, \$6,000 and 15 months to complete.

In June of 2006, two best friends from Oak Harbor, Ohio, Andrew Hemminger and Dave Bensch, got an idea to take their love and appreciation of the game of basketball to another level.

Their plan was simple in nature but was almost impossible in scope. They wanted to meet and interview many of the most recognized coaches from the most successful college basketball programs in the country.

The list of coaches was long, about 30 names in all. The names varied from established coaches such as Marquette's Tom Crean and Ohio State's Thad Matta to established legends such as the 97-year-old UCLA great John Wooden and Dean Smith from the University of North Carolina, one of the National Collegiate Athletic Association's winningest coaches.

Quite possibly the most unique part of Bensch and Hemminger's quest was the fact that neither one of them was a

member of the media, who have the best access to coaches and athletic programs.

With absolutely no credentials or clout to speak of, other than their intent to write a book compiling all of their interviews, they had to go about getting to their subjects the hard way: sending wave after wave of cold calls and e-mails, about 3,400 in total, to the different programs, in hopes that they'd catch a break and get interview time. In the end, they were able to do it.

Lifelong Best Friends: The Planning Phase

Hemminger and Bensch both grew up about a mile apart in Oak Harbor. The two have been best friends for most of their lives.

Before there was ever even an idea to write a book, they just enjoyed playing sports together. Baseball and basketball were their favorites. In their youth, they played on traveling teams together. In high school, it continued. In baseball, Hemminger pitched and Bensch was the catcher. On the basketball court, Bensch played in the front court while Hemminger manned the point guard spot.



PHOTO PROVIDED BY ANDREW HEMMINGER
TOP TARHEEL: University of North Carolina coaching legend Dean Smith (center) poses with authors Bensch (left) and Hemminger (right) after an interview.

They would end up going to separate colleges. Hemminger went to Bowling Green State University, where he graduated in 2007 with an honors degree in sports management. Bensch attended Baldwin Wallace College in Berea, Ohio, where he would earn an honors degree in math.

It was in June leading into their senior year of college that the two got an idea.

The idea came innocently enough. "We were just shooting hoops in

a driveway," Hemminger said. "It was right before our senior year, 2006-2007. And wanted a final challenge. College was beat. We wanted a fun final project."

So they started. The two put a list together of 28 coaches and started sending out a flurry of cold e-mails to Sports Information Directors, or SIDs, at the various schools. They weren't sure who they were going to hear from first. They would get their answer only

See **BOOK** | Page 8

Our state of second place



Let me first start this by saying that I have never been the biggest OSU supporter (the "OH—IO" chants and the constant use of the word "The" in front of the university name just really annoyed me over time) but I actually rooted for them Monday night against LSU.

OSU responded to my fandom by doing what pretty much every Ohio team has done this calendar year—they finished in second.

That second place flavor flowed throughout the state this year as no state knows the saying "second place is just the first loser" quite like the Buckeye state.

This state has become the Buffalo Bills—a team that lost four straight Super Bowls in the early 1990s—but that only affected one city, this is a state-wide epidemic.

It all started back on Jan. 7, 2007 when OSU was routed 41-14 by the underdog Florida Gators.

Since that date, Ohio teams have given their fans many joys throughout their seasons but ultimately crashed and burned in the championship game.

OSU has seen this feat happen to four of its teams—the Greg Oden led men's basketball team fell to the Florida Gators and the men's soccer team fell at the hands of Wake Forest and then of course the losses to LSU and Florida by the football team.

The second place curse also made its way to other parts of the state—notably on the shores of Lake Erie in Cleveland.

The fighting LeBrons (Cavaliers) made their first NBA finals appearance ever in June but were promptly bounced out by the San Antonio Spurs in four games.

The Indians tied for the best record in the league with 96

See **SECOND** | Page 8

Confidence shaken for Buckeyes after loss

By Rusty Miller
The Associated Press

NEW ORLEANS — Sometimes a coach needs a couch more than a whistle.

That may be the conundrum for Ohio State's Jim Tressel as he tries to rebuild his Buckeyes' tattered psyches heading into the 2008 season.

The Buckeyes lost most of their stars from a top-ranked team that had been battered 41-14 by Florida in last year's BCS championship. Still, Tressel reconfigured the personnel and the Buckeyes flicked aside a soft schedule to return to the biggest game of them all.

It was a remarkable achievement.

However, Monday night's devastating 38-24 loss to LSU may require a longer recovery period.

Following the loss, wide receiver Brian Hartline hinted at that when he said: "Personally,



NAM Y. HUIH | AP PHOTO
FRUSTRATED: Buckeye QB Todd Boeckman tries to regroup on the sideline

I feel it was a great season for us. First off, to have the opportunity—whether we deserved it or not—to come back to the

See **OSU** | Page 8



HARAZ N. GHANBARI | AP PHOTO
STEPPING DOWN: The Hall of Fame coach announced his retirement yesterday

Redskins' Gibbs retires

By Joseph White
The Associated Press

Ashburn, Va. — After the toughest season of his Hall of Fame career, Joe Gibbs knew he needed to walk away from his Washington Redskins family to be closer to his wife, children and grandchildren.

He resigned as coach and team president of the Redskins yesterday, three days after a playoff loss ended an inspirational late-season run that followed the death

of safety Sean Taylor.

The 67-year-old Gibbs said Redskins owner Dan Snyder tried to persuade him to stay on during a conversation that lasted until about 2:30 a.m. yesterday.

"My family situation being what it is right now, I told him I couldn't make the kind of commitment I needed to make," Gibbs said during a news conference at the Redskins' practice facility, standing a few feet from the three silver Super Bowl trophies he won during his first tenure with the team.

More accolades for Patriots' QB Tom Brady

By Barry Wilner
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Just like all those wins, the NFL awards keep rolling in for Tom Brady.

The league's Most Valuable Player added The Associated Press 2007 Offensive Player of the Year honors to his collection Tuesday, easily outdistancing his main weapon on the unbeaten New England Patriots, Randy Moss.

Indeed, of the four players who received votes from a nationwide panel of 50 media members who regularly cover the NFL, three were Patriots. Brady, of course, led the way, just as he did through the first 16-0 regular season in league history.

"We set out a bunch of goals early in the season," Brady said, "and I think I said the best part about playing quarterback here is I just have to do my job,

show up every day and work hard just like everybody else. I think my job description is just a bit different than everybody else's, but there's a lot of satisfaction knowing that I can just come out there and worry about myself and expect that everybody else is going to do their job.

"It's been a fun season. There's no doubt about it."

And it's been a rewarding season for Brady, the first New England player to be chosen MVP and now the first Patriot to win Offensive Player of the Year. He collected 35 votes to 12 for Moss. Wes Welker, the Patriots' other starting receiver, got one, as did Green Bay quarterback Brett Favre.

Brady, an eight-year veteran who's already a winner of three Super Bowls, threw for 50 touchdowns, beating Peyton Manning's league mark by one. He also threw 23 of those



STEW MILNE | AP PHOTO

AWARDS A PLENTY: New England Patriots quarterback won the AP Offensive Player of the Year yesterday after already garnering the league's Most Valuable Player Award

TD passes to Moss, lifting the receiver past Jerry Rice's record of 22.

New England scored 589 points and 75 TDs, both records. Brady's precision — a 68.9 completion percentage,

117.2 passer rating, just eight interceptions — and yards passing (4,806, 383 more than runner-up Drew Brees of New Orleans) made him a natural choice for his second award in less than a week.

BOOK

From Page 7

about a day later. Their long trip was about to begin.

Interviewing Coaches: The Journey

The first program to return their e-mail and set up an interview was the University of Louisville and head coach Rick Pitino. Pitino has put together an impressive basketball resume. He won a national title as the head coach of the University of Kentucky in the 1990s and has also coached two NBA teams, the New York Knicks and Boston Celtics.

Hemminger and Bensch were scheduled to meet with him at 3 p.m. on a Monday. There was no guarantee on how much time they would have with Pitino, because the media would also be present for their usual interviewing time. The two immediately packed up their tape recorders and each wrote out a sheet of questions to ask. They were off to Louisville.

Although the meeting started at three, they wanted to be checked in and waiting for Pitino by one.

Then the SID said it was time to interview.

"We were terrified," Hemminger said. "We were thrown into the fire right away. We walk into this palace of an office and we're staring at Rick Pitino, who has his hand outstretched."

"We were pretty nervous," Bensch said. "We were like school boys outside the principal's office. But Pitino made us feel right at home. He was very generous. It was a great way to kick off."

The hour-long interview was conducted and the future authors went on their way with new confidence in their ability to get their project done. After Louisville, they would travel all over the country, racking up miles upon miles in



PHOTO PROVIDED BY ANDREW HEMMINGER

COACH K: Bensch (left) and Hemminger (right) after meeting with Duke's coach (center).

that Honda Civic.

They met coaches in all different places. Many interviews were done in offices at the different universities. But many were also done in more unlikely settings.

"We met with [University of Texas coach] Rick Barnes at a Cracker Barrel in his hometown in North Carolina," Hemminger said.

Beyond their interview questions, which consisted of queries about mentors, their experiences in coaching and their philosophies, Hemminger and Bensch found that many of college basketball's great coaches are pretty normal guys.

"[Ohio State coach] Thad Matta talked to us about everything," Hemminger said. "He even talked to us about mowing his grass at home."

Some coaches went out of their way to help out. Then-West Virginia coach John Bielein did the interview and then guided Bensch and Hemminger on a tour of the basketball arena.

A few of the coaches even let the pair of authors into their homes.

"[University of Wisconsin coach Bo Ryan] met us in his home," Bensch said. "We had dinner and hung out with his family. He was

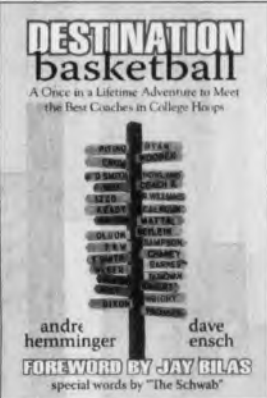


PHOTO PROVIDED BY ANDREW HEMMINGER

THE BOOK: The cover of book shows all of the coaches who were interviewed.

really down to earth. It was nice to see him take the wall down."

Still, there were times when the coaches' profiles were so large that the old nervousness would kick in. In the span of one week-end, Bensch and Hemminger completed interviews with three of the greatest coaches in the history of the sport.

On a Friday, they met with retired legend and Hall of Famer Dean Smith. On Saturday, they

met with current North Carolina coach Roy Williams. The very next day, they traveled the ten miles from Chapel Hill to Durham, North Carolina, to meet with Mike Krzyzewski of Duke. It was three straight interviews with best of the best, and it wasn't even their most nerve-racking experience.

John Wooden won 665 games in 27 seasons as the coach of UCLA until he retired in 1975. He coached the Bruins to 10 national championships and at one point had a record-winning streak of 88 games. In 1972, he was named Sports Illustrated's Sportsman of the Year. He agreed to meet Hemminger and Bensch at his home in California.

The preparation for their biggest interview was immensely meticulous. They booked a hotel room located a short distance away from Wooden's home. The trip to Wooden's home was also the only time in their entire journey that Hemminger and Bensch traveled by airplane. They planned to be early and they were incredibly nervous.

"When we were in the elevator about to meet John Wooden, we were shaken up," Bensch said.

The interview was a great success.

"He's 97-years-old," Bensch said. "But he's as sharp, if not sharper, than anyone else we interviewed. He was reciting poetry from memory and talked about moments like they just happened. The interview lasted for two hours. He was very sincere and very humble about his accomplishments."

Once all 28 interviews were completed, they put together their book of experiences. From the beginning, they wanted to talk to positive coaches who stayed away from violations and were spread out all over the country. They were able to accomplish their goal.

THE BG NEWS SUDOKU								
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1	6	8	7	9	1	5
5	5	1	9	1	6	7
1	7	6	5	8	9	1
8	9	6	1	2	5	1

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SECOND

From Page 7

wins and had the eventual champion Boston Red Sox on the ropes before blowing a 3-1 advantage and losing in seven games in the ALCS.

It even affected other collegiate teams.

Akron had its first NCAA tournament appearance in their grasp, but Miami's Doug Penno ripped their hearts out by banking in a game-winning in three pointer to give the RedHawks a one point victory with no time left.

The curse trickled its way into Alliance, OH where the championship machine, Mount Union, lost out on its bid for three straight championships when they fell to Wisconsin-Whitewater in the Stagg Bowl.

Other teams around the state experienced great seasons but

ultimately ended up adding to the postseason disappointment.

The Browns had the best season since their return to the NFL by posting a 10-6 record but fell short of the playoffs because they could not beat the 5-9 Cincinnati Bengals in the second-to-last week of the season.

Even the Falcons football team saw its great season end terribly when Tulsa handed them a 63-7 beat down — the most lopsided score in bowl history.

The second place curse came full circle Monday night when OSU was downed by the Tigers 38-24 on Jan. 7, 2008.

If anybody actually thought OSU was winning that game — in the year that almost every team finished second — they were fooling themselves.

Just add the latest installment of the Buckeyes football team to the second place ring of honor — although it is getting very crowded in there.

OSU

From Page 7

national championship game is always an honor. You know, we don't vote for us."

That phrase "whether we deserved it or not" shows the Buckeyes have just about hit rock bottom in terms of confidence.

It goes without saying, the national perspective today is the Buckeyes did not belong in the game and they obviously aren't competitive with the top teams in the land, or at least the ones from the Southeastern Conference. They sank from No. 1 to No. 5 in the final Associated Press rankings.

So, while Tressel works at filling out his two-deep roster this

spring, he might also want to wheel out a couch so he can analyze his players' damaged self-worth.

Because, until he can get their heads back in the game, it may not matter how much talent they put on the field.

Yes, there will be plenty of talent, even if several players migrate early to the NFL.

Here's a harrowing thought for all those Buckeyes detractors out there: This team has good enough players to make it back to a third consecutive title game.

That might be even more daunting to Ohio State fans, who have had their hopes trashed each of the last two seasons. Maybe they're getting tired of the big hype and the little payoff.

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STORM

From Page 1

Monday's storms also poured more than 5 inches of rain on north-central Indiana, causing near-record flooding that threatened a dam on the Tippecanoe River, and one man drowned while attempting to evacuate in Remington after a creek flooded, said Karen Wilson, Jasper County emergency management director. Remington is about 90 miles northwest of Indianapolis.

"The waters were moving so rapidly and so deep that he just went under and didn't come back up," Wilson said. She said up to 150 people were evacuated in Remington.

Boats were called out to assist in evacuations in several communities about 80 miles northwest of Indianapolis, said White County emergency management director Gordon Cochran said.

Some roads were washed out in the county, authorities said.

On Monday, Bill Lischka was



MARK SCHIEFELBEIN | AP PHOTO

WRECKAGE: Volunteers work to move cabinet found in the rubble of a Mo. home.

drinking coffee at a restaurant in Caledonia, Ill., when he heard something he didn't expect in January: a tornado siren.

"Next thing you know ... a tornado just popped right out of the clouds," Lischka said.

Al Ost said he "prayed like a sissy" as he fled to the basement of his house in Boone County, Ill. The storm damaged a barn on his property, he told the Rockford Register Star.

Hardest hit Monday in

Wisconsin was a subdivision in Wheatland, about 50 miles southwest of Milwaukee, where at least 60 homes were damaged, Kenosha County sheriff's Lt. Paul Falduto said yesterday morning.

"With the light of day it always looks worse than at night," Falduto said.

Fifteen people were injured in the county, none seriously.

"I have never seen damage like this in the summertime when we have potential for tornadoes," Kenosha County Sheriff David Beth said. "To see something like this in January is mind-boggling to me."

Kenosha County Circuit Judge Bruce E. Schroeder, presiding over opening testimony in a murder trial, said he couldn't believe it when a deputy said the courtroom had to be evacuated because of a tornado warning.

"It's a first," he said while waiting with 300 people in the basement. "I've actually had ... warnings occur during jury trials before and frankly I just ignored them. But not in January."

New England milk may harbor harmful bacteria

By Denise Lavoie
The Associated Press

BOSTON — At Whittier Farms dairy, the fifth-generation owners brag of the quality of their Holstein cows and still deliver milk right to your door, in glass bottles. Customers like the products because they are a hormone-free taste of old New England.

But health officials now say three elderly men have died and at least one pregnant woman has miscarried since last June after drinking bacteria-contaminated milk from the dairy's plant

"We know something is going on; we just don't know what it is."

Alfred DeMaria | CDC State director

in Shrewsbury, about 35 miles west of Boston.

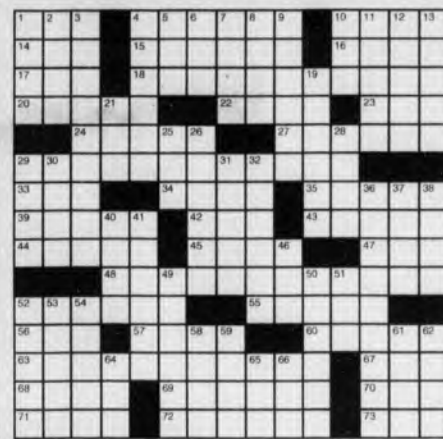
All were infected with listeria, which is extremely rare in pasteurized milk. It is more often found in raw foods, such as uncooked meat and vegetables, and processed foods such as soft

cheeses and cold cuts.

The outbreak is believed to be only the third time listeria has ever been linked to pasteurized milk in the United States, said Dr. Alfred DeMaria, state director of Communicable Disease Control.

"We know something is going on; we just don't know what it is," DeMaria said. "We just need to find out how the bacteria is getting into the milk."

Listeria bacteria are often present in manure and are commonly found in soil and water. Pasteurization is supposed to kill listeria.

The Daily Crossword Fix
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ACROSS

- 1 Cigar end
- 4 Hit the sack
- 10 Sail support
- 14 Miss Piggy's pronoun
- 15 Implant
- 16 Singer Adams
- 17 Anger
- 18 Author and his sleuth
- 20 Challenged
- 22 Ripening agent
- 23 Loan fig.
- 24 Dancer Astaire
- 27 Gaucho ropes
- 29 Author and his sleuth
- 33 Arrow's flight
- 34 Vigoda and Burrows
- 35 Jungle vine
- 39 12-step prog.
- 42 Tasting grp.
- 43 Chelmsford's county
- 44 Out-of-date
- 45 1997 Peter Fonda title role

- 47 Choice abbr.
- 48 Author and his sleuth
- 52 Goddess of wisdom
- 55 Windmill blades
- 56 Medical pic
- 57 Conception
- 60 Snouts
- 63 Author and his sleuth
- 67 Hot diamonds
- 68 Reverberation
- 69 Garb
- 70 Powerful D.C. lobby
- 71 Take a break
- 72 Spoke insolently
- 73 Totality

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Suspected kidnapper leads police to missing hiker's body

By Bernard McGhee
The Associated Press

DAWSONVILLE, Ga. — Just hours before authorities launched another search for the body of a missing hiker, a drifter accused of kidnapping the woman told them where to look, investigators said.

Gary Michael Hilton, 61, had been charged Saturday with kidnapping with intent of bodily injury. He appeared before a judge yesterday who denied his request for bail.

Hours later, he led investigators to a spot in a wooded area in north Georgia where they found the body of Meredith Emerson, said John Cagle, special agent in charge of the Georgia Bureau of Investigation's Field Division in Cleveland, Ga.

The 24-year-old woman had been missing since New Year's Day. Hilton was the last person seen with Emerson on the hiking trail and had tried to use

her credit card, according to his arrest warrant.

Three bloody fleece tops and a bloodstained piece of a car's seat belt were found in a trash bin outside a convenience store where Hilton had used a pay phone, the warrant stated. He had tried to vacuum and wash portions of his 2001 Chevrolet Astro van, which was missing a rear seat belt, according to the document.

Authorities declined Monday night to say whether Hilton would face murder charges.

Local residents had reported seeing Hilton's van in the woods where the body was found. A search of the area had been planned, miles from where Emerson was last seen, before Hilton told authorities where to look, Cagle said.

Authorities would not describe how Emerson had died.

Peggy Bailey, a spokeswoman

for Emerson's family, told Atlanta television station WAGA that the family was taking the news of her body being found "as you would expect." But the family was relieved to now know what had happened to Emerson, Bailey said.

"This is what we wanted," she said. "We wanted finality to help us move on."

Union County Sheriff Scott Stephens said Hilton was a drifter who was well-known in the area, and was often seen with his dog, Dandy, and a police-style baton.

Authorities also said they are exploring a possible link between the disappearance of Emerson and the presumed killing of a couple from North Carolina in October.

Bureau director Vernon Keenan said there could be a connection between the Emerson death and the case of John and Irene Bryant, a couple in their 80s who dis-

appeared in October while hiking in the western North Carolina mountains.

Georgia officials met with North Carolina authorities Monday to discuss the case, bureau spokesman John Bankhead said.

"It's up to North Carolina now to assess the situation," he said.

The body of Irene Bryant, 84, was found covered with leaves in November. John Bryant, 80, is still missing, and authorities said he may have been kidnapped so he would provide the couple's bank account security number.

Someone used the Bryants' ATM card in the days following their disappearance, investigators said. The ATM transaction took place in Ducktown, Tenn., about 50 miles from the area of the Georgia investigation.

Associated Press writer Errin Haines contributed to this report.



THOMAS BABB | AP PHOTO

MISSING HIKER: Kyle Kleber prays for missing hiker Meredith Emerson during a local candle light vigil held on Sunday night. Kleber prays at a display of Emerson at the entrance of Devil's Ridge Golf Club.

Zoo director receives criticism after tiger escape

By Juliana Barbassa
The Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO — Since the deadly tiger escape at the San Francisco Zoo, its director has come under increasing criticism over his track record and his suggestion that the victims brought the attack on themselves by taunting the animal.

The lawyer for the two of the visitors mauled in the Christmas Day attack is threatening a defamation lawsuit over what he claims is a despicable blame-the-victim strategy on the part of the zoo, and animal rights activists have long accused Zoo Director Manuel Mollinedo of putting too much emphasis on showmanship.

"We've asked for his termination," said Elliot Katz, president of In Defense of Animals.

So far, the American Zoo and Aquarium Association, which accredits the nation's zoos, and the San Francisco zoo's overseers are standing by Mollinedo.

"Since Manuel joined us in 2004, the zoo is in better physical and financial shape than it's ever been," said Nick Podell, president of the San Francisco Zoological Society. He praised Mollinedo's handling of the attack.

AZA spokesman Steve Feldman added that Mollinedo is "well-liked and well regarded" within the industry.

Before coming to San Francisco, Mollinedo was widely praised for his work at the long-neglected Los Angeles Zoo, even though a dozen animals slipped out of their enclosures during the course of a year.

Mollinedo was the unanimous choice over more than 100 candidates for the San Francisco job. He makes about \$330,000 a year in salary and benefits, and under his leadership the zoo has seen increased attendance, new corporate sponsors and refurbished exhibits at the Depression-era facility.

Then came the Christmas Day tiger attack. The 350-pound Siberian tiger apparently jumped over a 12-foot wall around its pen and killed 17-year-old Carlos Sousa Jr.

"Since Manuel joined us in 2004, the zoo is in better physical and financial shape ..."

Nick Podell | President of Zoological Society

His friends, brothers Kulbir Dhaliwal, 23, and Paul Dhaliwal, 19, were severely mauled.

At first, the zoo's response seemed confused and disorganized. Police radio transcripts reveal that zoo employees initially questioned whether early reports of the attack were coming from a mentally unstable person.

When questioned by reporters, Mollinedo gave an inaccurate figure for the wall's height, putting it at 18 feet. Then, two days after the attack, he acknowledged the wall was only 12 feet — or 4 feet below the recommended national standard.

Several days after the mauling, the zoo hired Sam Singer, a prominent San Francisco Bay-area crisis-management specialist. Acknowledging that the zoo had bungled its initial response, Singer adopted a new strategy.

Soon, the public and the media's attention turned from the competence of zoo officials and the substandard tiger exhibit to the victims' behavior leading up to the escape.

At a news conference, Mollinedo suggested "something happened to provoke that tiger to leap out of her exhibit."

A rash of false information soon emerged in the media, including reports that the victims had slingshots and had been drinking in an establishment near the zoo.

Singer admitted yesterday that he told reporters about the slingshot rumor, but said he was passing along information he had heard elsewhere. He denied planting the rumor about the bar.

"Police are investigating accusations of the use of a slingshot and the possible use of stones, pine cones, or other pieces of wood or that may have been used to taunt the tiger," Singer said yesterday. "That's fact."

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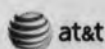


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